

Remarks

Claims 1-24 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1 and 15 are independent, and are currently amended.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for courtesies extended during a brief telephonic communication on October 4, 2007, during which Applicant agreed to amend independent claims 1 and 15 to recite, “A computer program stored on a computer readable medium,” in order to overcome the rejection of claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being drawn to non-patentable subject matter.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Paragraph 4 of the Office Action rejects claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as not being directed to patentable subject matter because Claims 1-24 are drawn to a “program” per se as recited in the preamble.

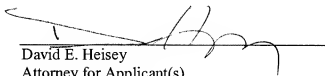
Pursuant to the telephonic communication with the Examiner on October 4, 2007, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 15 to recite that the computer program is “stored on a computer readable medium.” Accordingly, Applicants believe claims 1 and 15, as amended, are drawn to patentable subject matter.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-24 is solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this and concurrent replies to charge payment (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 19-1853 for any additional required fees.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'David E. Heisey', is written over a horizontal line.

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